



First Second

ROARING BROOK PRESS NAMES ITS GRAPHIC NOVEL IMPRINT

January 26, 2005: Roaring Brook Press today announced the name of its graphic novel imprint: **FIRST SECOND**. Established in 2004 under editorial director Mark Siegel, **FIRST SECOND** will publish its first list in early 2006.

Roaring Brook Press has a reputation for independent-minded, high-quality publishing in the traditional children's and young adult markets. **FIRST SECOND** lays out a vision for an equally innovative and durable graphic novel program, built on original, high-quality work for a wide age range, from middle grade to teen to adult.

Mark Siegel joined Roaring Brook in August 2004 as Editorial Director of **FIRST SECOND**. An author in his own right and former senior designer at Simon & Schuster BFYR, he has a wide acquaintance in the graphic novel and comics world and has built a formidable list for **FIRST SECOND**. Notable projects acquired by Siegel for **FIRST SECOND** include:

- **DECELERATE BLUE**, written by **ADAM RAPP**. A dark, futuristic drama by a major playwright, author and filmmaker.
- **LIFE SUCKS**. Teenage vampires in Los Angeles, by noted indie comic author **JESSICA ABEL, GABE SORIAS,** and **WARREN PLEECE**.
- **THE BLACK DIAMOND DETECTIVE AGENCY** by **EDDIE CAMPBELL**, based on C.Gaby Mitchell's original screenplay. A drama set in the turn-of-the-century Chicago, developed with movie production company Wonderland Films. Written and illustrated by the hugely popular Eddie Campbell, co-author with Alan Moore of **FROM HELL**.
- **ROBOT DREAMS** by **SARA VARON**. A tale of friendship, betrayal, and healing between a dog and his mail-order robot, by a graphic novel author with a fast-growing reputation.
- **THE GOLEM'S KLEZMER BAND** by **JOANN SFAR**, one of Europe's graphic novel luminaries borrows from history, Jewish mysticism and his own unbridled mythology.
- Highly regarded historian **CATHERINE CLINTON** (author of a noted biography of

{cont'd}

Harriet Tubman) casts her talent for humanizing history into a graphic novel script dramatizing the writing of the U.S. CONSTITUTION and bringing Hamilton, Madison, and Washington to life.

- **THE LOST COLONY** by **GRADY KLEIN**. Newcomer Grady Klein has created a completely self contained and populated world with an early American colonial setting in **LOST COLONY**—an American Asterix for the 21st Century.
- **LINES ON PAPER**. A high school/college-level manual for creating graphic novels, for the classroom or self-study, by noted authors and School of Visual Arts comics teachers, **JESSICA ABEL** and **MATT MADDEN**.

“Interest in graphic novels has exploded,” says Siegel, “and for good reason. A new generation of outstanding authors and artists is exploring the form in ways that reach far beyond traditional ideas of the comic book. And a new generation of readers raised on a visual world of movies, TV, and video games have adopted the form as their own. **FIRST SECOND** brings these authors and readers together.”

“Graphic novels are escaping the fringe market and flooding into the mainstream,” adds Simon Boughton, publisher of Roaring Brook Press. “The best titles are reaching ever wider audiences, both in the United States and the rest of the world. With a list that embraces the most exciting voices in graphic novels, **FIRST SECOND** bridges countries, genres and ages.”

- :01 A new voice.
- :01 A new start.
- :01 It all begins with the First Second. . . .

FIRST SECOND is an imprint of Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishers. Founded in 2002, Roaring Brook publishes literature for young readers in all age groups from toddlers to teens. Books published by Roaring Brook Press have won consecutive Caldecott Medals in 2003 and 2004. The U.S. Holtzbrinck group, a subsidiary of Verlagsgruppe Georg von Holtzbrinck, GmbH, includes the trade publishing houses of Farrar, Straus & Giroux; Henry Holt and Company; St. Martin’s Press; Tor Books; Picador; and Audio Renaissance. Also included are Palgrave Macmillan, the academic and scholarly publishing company; the Bedford Freeman Worth college publishing group; and Scientific American.

www.firstsecondbooks.com • mail@firstsecondbooks.com

For further information, contact: Tracey Daniels, MEDIA MASTERS (815) 254-7383

